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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-OAR-2012-0333 FRL-9671-6]

**Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection;
Comment Request; Information Collection Request for the
Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program; EPA ICR No. 2300.10**

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), this document announces that EPA is planning to submit a request to renew an existing approved Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). This ICR is scheduled to expire on November 30, 2012. Before submitting the ICR to OMB for review and approval, the EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection as described below.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before [INSERT THE DATE 60 DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2012-0333, by one of the following methods:

- <http://www.regulations.gov>: Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.
- Email: a-and-r-Docket@epa.gov
- Fax: (202) 566-9744

- Mail: Air and Radiation Docket and Information Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Mailcode: 2822T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20460
- Hand Delivery: EPA Docket Center, Public Reading Room, EPA Headquarters West Building, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20240. Such deliveries are only accepted during the Docket's normal hours of operation, and special arrangements should be made for deliveries of boxed information.

Instructions: Direct your comments to Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2012-0333. The EPA's policy is that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change and may be made available online at <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Do not submit information that you consider to be CBI or otherwise protected through <http://www.regulations.gov> or email. The <http://www.regulations.gov> website is an "anonymous access" system, which means the EPA will not know your identity or contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment. If you send an email comment directly to the EPA without going through <http://www.regulations.gov> your email address will be automatically captured and included as part of the comment that is placed in the public docket and made available on the Internet. If you submit an electronic comment, the EPA recommends that you include your name and other contact information in the body of your comment and with any disk or CD-

ROM you submit. If the EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties and cannot contact you for clarification, the EPA may not be able to consider your comment. Electronic files should avoid the use of special characters, any form of encryption, and be free of any defects or viruses. For additional information about EPA's public docket visit the EPA Docket Center homepage at <http://www.epa.gov/epahome/dockets.htm>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carole Cook, Climate Change Division, Office of Atmospheric Programs (MC-6207J), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 343-9263; fax number: (202) 343-2342; email address: GHGReportingRule@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

How Can I Access the Docket and/or Submit Comments?

The EPA has established a public docket for this ICR under Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2012-0333, which is available for online viewing at <http://www.regulations.gov>, or in person viewing at the EPA Air and Radiation Docket in the EPA Docket Center (EPA/DC), EPA West, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC. The EPA/DC Public Reading Room is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Reading Room is (202)566-

1744, and the telephone number for the EPA Air and Radiation Docket is (202) 566- 1742.

Use <http://www.regulations.gov> to obtain a copy of the draft collection of information, submit or view public comments, access the index listing of the contents of the docket, and to access those documents in the public docket that are available electronically. Once in the system, select "search," then key in the docket ID number identified in this document.

What Information is EPA Particularly Interested In?

Pursuant to section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA, the EPA specifically solicits comments and information to enable it to:

(i) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(ii) Evaluate the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(iii) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(iv) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of

information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses. In particular, the EPA is requesting comments from very small businesses (those that employ less than 25) on examples of specific additional efforts that the EPA could make to reduce the paperwork burden for very small businesses affected by this collection.

What Should I Consider when I Prepare My Comments for the EPA?

You may find the following suggestions helpful for preparing your comments:

1. Explain your views as clearly as possible and provide specific examples.
2. Describe any assumptions that you used.
3. Provide copies of any technical information and/or data you used that support your views.
4. If you estimate potential burden or costs, explain how you arrived at the estimate that you provide.
5. Offer alternative ways to improve the collection activity.
6. Make sure to submit your comments by the deadline identified under DATES.
7. To ensure proper receipt by the EPA, be sure to identify the docket ID number assigned to this action in the subject line on the first page of your response. You may also provide the name, date, and Federal Register citation.

What Information Collection Activity or ICR Does this Apply to?

[Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2012-0333.]

Affected entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are suppliers of certain products that will emit GHG when released, combusted, or oxidized, motor vehicle and engine manufacturers, including aircraft engine manufacturers; facilities in certain industrial categories that emit greenhouse gases; and facilities that emit 25,000 metric tons or more of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) per year.

Title: Information Collection Request for the Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program

ICR numbers: EPA ICR No. 2300.10, OMB Control No. 2060-0629.

ICR status: This ICR is currently scheduled to expire on November 30, 2012. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information, unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control numbers for the EPA's regulations in title 40 of the CFR, after appearing in the Federal Register when approved, are listed in 40 CFR part 9, are displayed either by publication in the Federal Register or by other appropriate means, such as on the related collection instrument or form, if applicable. The display of OMB control numbers in certain EPA regulations is consolidated in 40 CFR part 9.

Abstract: In response to the FY2008 Consolidated Appropriations Act (H.R. 2764; Public Law 110-161) and under authority of the Clean Air Act, the EPA finalized the Mandatory Reporting of Greenhouse Gases Rule (GHG Reporting Rule) (74 FR 56260; October 30, 2009). The GHG Reporting Rule, which became effective on December 29, 2009, establishes reporting requirements for some direct GHG emitters as well as suppliers of certain products that will emit GHG when released, combusted, or oxidized, industrial gas suppliers, and manufacturers of heavy-duty and off-road vehicles and engines. It does not require control of greenhouse gases. Instead, it requires that sources emitting above certain threshold levels of (CO₂e) monitor and report emissions.

Subsequent rules provide corrections and clarification on existing requirements; include requirements for additional facilities and suppliers; require reporters to provide information about parent companies, NAICS code(s), and whether emissions are from cogeneration; and finalize confidentiality determinations. Specifically, in 2010 and 2011, the EPA promulgated requirements for subparts T, FF, II, and TT (75 FR 39736; July 12, 2010); information about parent companies, NAICS code(s), and cogeneration (75 FR 57669; September 22, 2010); subpart W (75 FR 74458; November 30, 2010); subparts I, L, DD, QQ, and SS (75 FR 74774; December 1, 2010); subparts RR and UU

(75 FR 75060; December 1, 2010); and confidentiality determinations (76 FR 30782; May 26, 2011). Collectively, the GHG Reporting Rule and its associated rulemakings are referred to as the Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program (GHGRP).

The purpose for this ICR is to renew and revise the GHG Reporting Rule ICR to update and consolidate the burdens and costs imposed by all of the current ICRs under the GHGRP.

Data submitted under the GHGRP that is classified as CBI is protected under the provisions of 40 CFR part 2, subpart B. The EPA is determining through a series of rulemaking actions the data elements that will be eligible for treatment as CBI. However, according to CAA section 114(c), "emissions data" cannot be classified as CBI. The EPA has proposed that inputs to emissions equations meet the definition of "emissions data" and cannot be afforded the protections of CBI. The EPA has deferred the reporting deadline for data elements that are used as inputs to emissions equations to provide the EPA time needed to fully evaluate and resolve issues regarding the reporting and potential release of these data (76 FR 53057, August 25, 2011).

Burden Statement: The annual public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1.96 hours per response. Burden means the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide

information to or for a Federal agency. This includes the time needed to review instructions; develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; adjust the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements which have subsequently changed; train personnel to be able to respond to a collection of information; search data sources; complete and review the collection of information; and transmit or otherwise disclose the information.

The ICR provides a detailed explanation of the EPA's estimate, which is only briefly summarized here:

1. Estimated total number of potential respondents: 11,290.
2. Frequency of response: Annual, quarterly.
3. Estimated total average number of responses for each respondent: 43.

4. Estimated total annual burden hours: 1,000,914 hours. This includes estimated total respondent hours of 942,344 hours and estimated total EPA hours of 58,570 hours.

5. Estimated total annual costs: \$98,082,191. This includes an estimated cost of \$28,086,090 for capital investment as well as maintenance and operational costs, an estimated respondent

burden cost of \$56,141,455, and an estimated EPA cost of \$13,854,646.

Are There Changes in the Estimates from the Last Approval?

There is a decrease of 764,890 hours in the total estimated respondent burden compared with the combined burden in the currently approved ICRs for the GHGRP identified in the ICRs currently approved by OMB (2060-0629, -0646, -0647, -0649, -0650, -0651, and -0680). This decrease reflects the completion of one-time activities that occurred in the first year of data collection as well as adjustments in the number of respondents based on facilities that reported information to the EPA. This change is the result of an adjustment.

What is the Next Step in the Process for this ICR?

The EPA will consider the comments received and amend the ICR as appropriate. The final ICR package will then be submitted to OMB for review and approval pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.12. At that time, the EPA will issue another Federal Register notice pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.5(a)(1)(iv) to announce the submission of the ICR to OMB and the opportunity to submit additional comments to OMB. If you have any questions about this ICR or the approval process, please contact the technical person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Date: April 27, 2012.

Sarah Dunham,
Director, Office of Atmospheric Programs.

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